

ad astra

Publius Cornelius Scipio Africanus Major & Hannibal Barca





HANNIBAL SHOULD BE FEELING THE PRESSURE TOO NOW...

IT COULD BE SAID THAT SO FAR THINGS HAVE GONE WELL.



TO HAVE LOST THE USE OF MY DOMINANT HAND IS PROVING QUITE CRIPPLING...

THE ONE THING THAT WORRIES ME IS THIS HAND OF MINE.

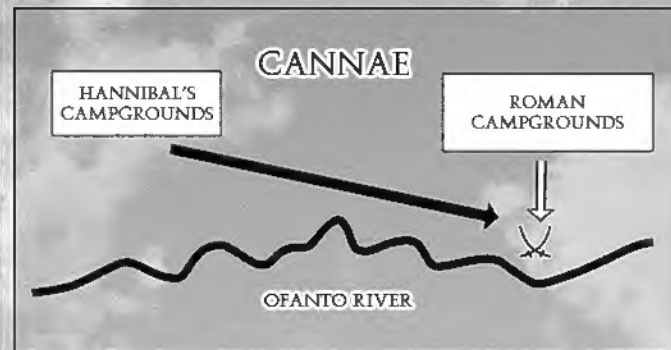


I HAD BEST STEEL MYSELF FOR WHEN THE SHOWDOWN OCCURS, ASSUMING IT DOES.



DID YOU SEE THAT, SCIPIO!? THAT BIG GUY OVER THERE WAS AMAZING!

BY ORDERING SMALL RAIDING PARTIES OVER SEVERAL DAYS TO ATTACK ROMAN SOLDIERS WHILE THEY WERE RETRIEVING WATER.



A LARGE DECISIVE SHOWDOWN HAD YET TO BEGIN, WITH ONLY SMALL SKIRMISHES HAVING TAKEN PLACE THUS FAR.

THAT, ALONG WITH THE URGINGS OF CAUTION GIVEN BY AEMILIUS AND HIS FOLLOWERS MEANT THAT VARRO HAD YET TO DIRECT THE LEGIONS TOWARDS A MASSIVE CLASH.



SEEING THIS, THE HANNIBAL ARMY ATTEMPTED TO GOAD THE ROMANS INTO FIGHTING A LARGER BATTLE

ad astra episode 028

CHAPTER 28 BATTLE OF CANNAE 1

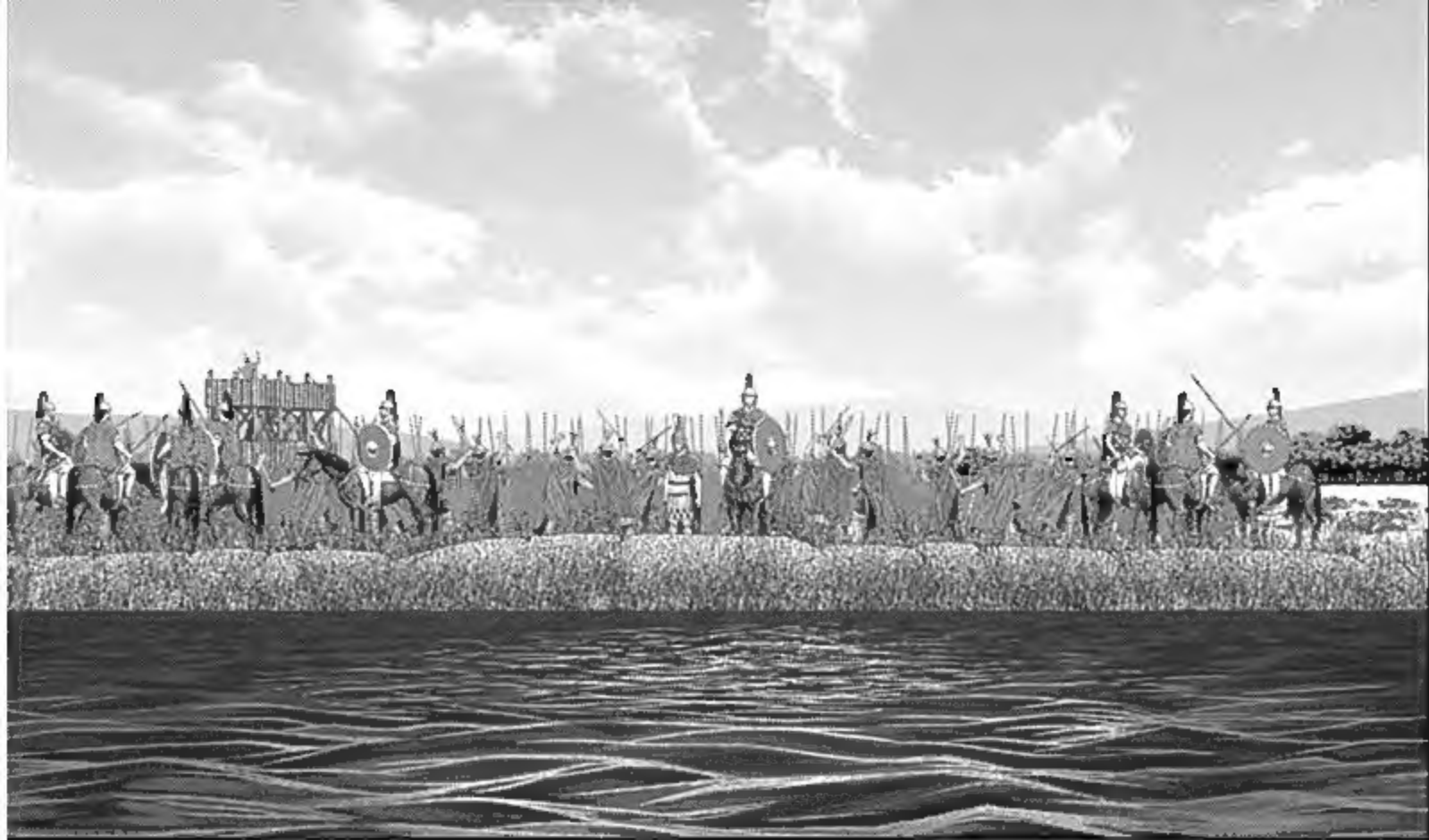










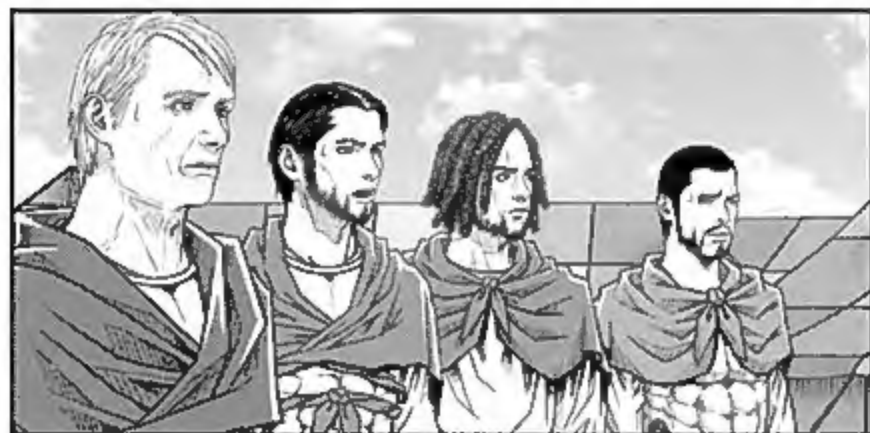


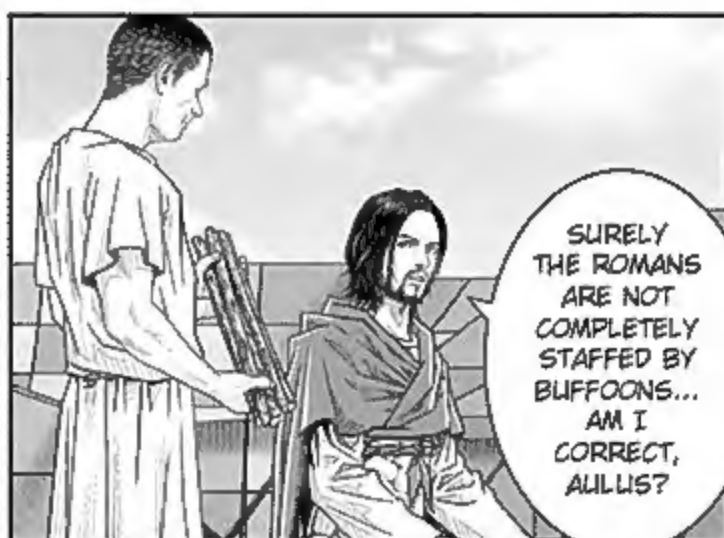
*A  
RIVER...*













ARE THESE  
PESKY  
CARTHAG-  
INIANS  
A BUNCH  
OF FLIES  
DANCING  
BEFORE  
MY FACE!?

I'VE  
HAD IT  
UP TO  
HERE  
WITH  
THEIR  
NON-  
SENSE!



MY  
PATIENCE  
IS AT ITS  
END!



TOMORROW,  
THE RIGHT  
OF COMMAND  
FALLS TO  
ME!

I WILL  
NOT ALLOW  
MYSELF TO  
BE HELD  
BACK BY  
YOU ANY  
LONGER!

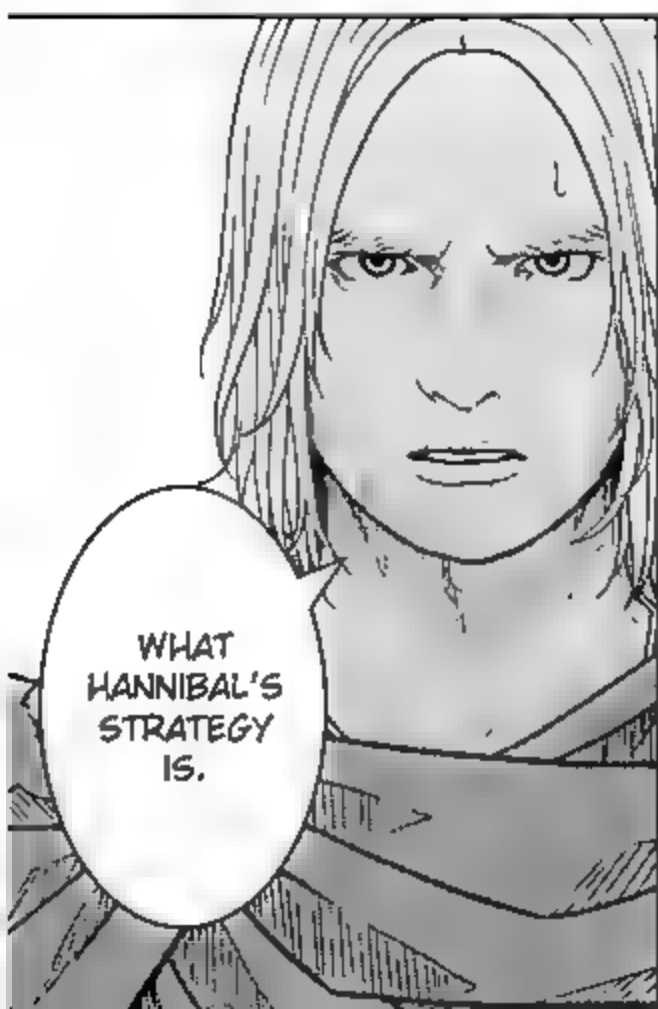






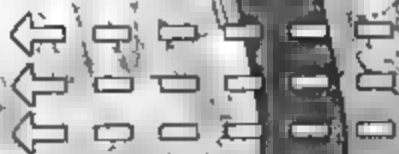




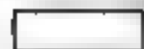




# BATTLE OF THE TREBIA



TREBIA  
RIVER



ROMAN ARMY



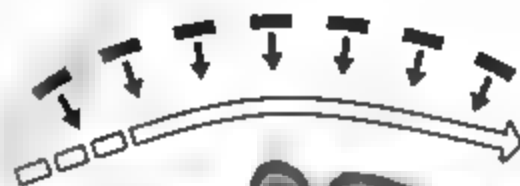
HANNIBAL'S ARMY

AT TREBIA,  
OUR MEN  
WERE FORCED  
TO WADE  
THROUGH A  
FREEZING  
COLD RIVER,  
AND THEN,  
IN THE  
CHILLING SNOW,  
THEY WERE  
AMBUSHED  
BY MEN LYING  
IN WAIT IN THE  
THICKETS.

WHILE AT  
LAKE TRASIMENE,  
WE WERE CAUGHT  
IN A SURPRISE  
FLANK ATTACK  
BECAUSE THEY  
HAD HIDDEN  
THEMSELVES  
WITHIN THE FOG.

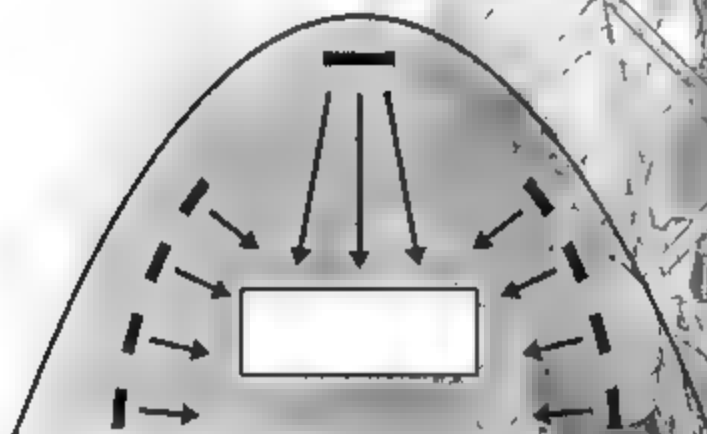
CAUGHT  
BETWEEN  
THE ENEMIES  
AND THE LAKE,  
OUR MEN  
WERE WIPED  
OUT.

# BATTLE OF LAKE TRASIMENE



LAKE TRASIMENE

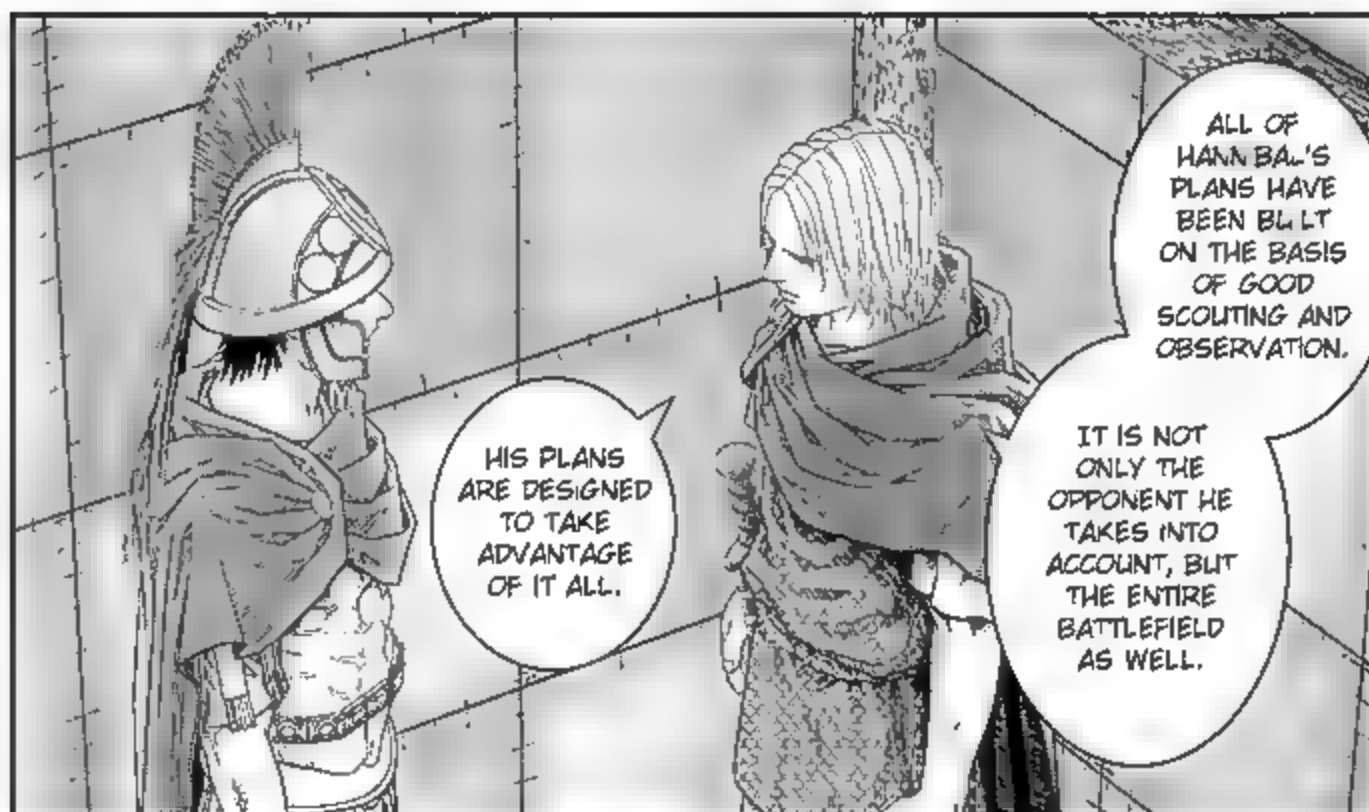
# BATTLE OF GERONIUM



AND MOST  
RECENTLY, AT  
GERONIUM,  
WHEN OUR  
ATTENTION WAS  
FOCUSED ON  
THE PEAK OF  
A BARE HILL,

WE WERE  
CAUGHT IN A  
Pincer ATTACK  
BY MEN WHO  
HAD HIDDEN  
IN SMALL  
DEPRESSIONS.





HIS PLANS  
ARE DESIGNED  
TO TAKE  
ADVANTAGE  
OF IT ALL.

ALL OF  
HANNIBAL'S  
PLANS HAVE  
BEEN BUILT  
ON THE BASIS  
OF GOOD  
SCOUTING AND  
OBSERVATION.

IT IS NOT  
ONLY THE  
OPPONENT HE  
TAKES INTO  
ACCOUNT, BUT  
THE ENTIRE  
BATTLEFIELD  
AS WELL.



WHAT?...



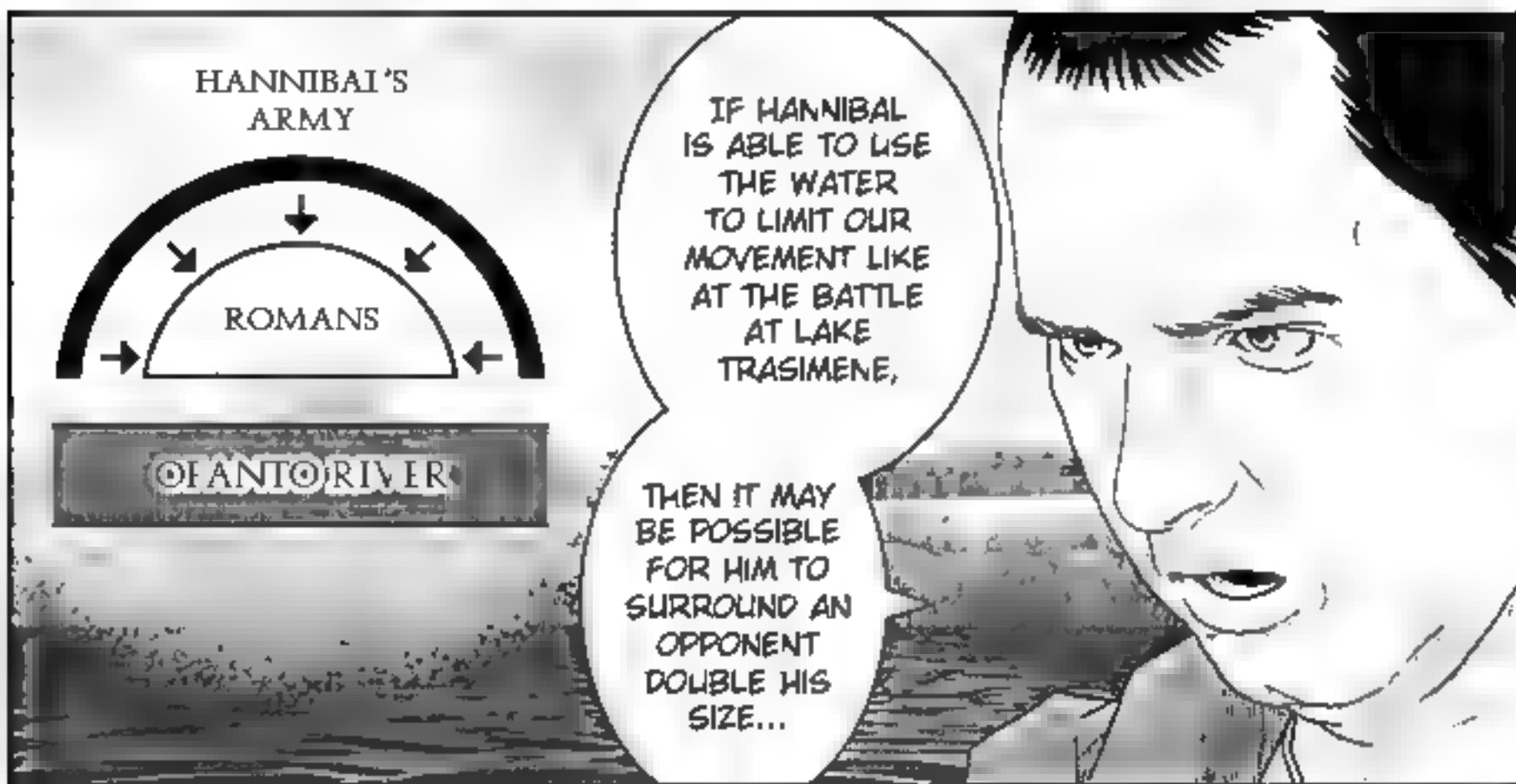
...SO  
YOU'VE  
REALISED  
THAT TOO.



IT IS A SAFE  
ASSUMPTION  
THAT THE  
OFANTO RIVER  
WILL PLAY A  
KEY PART  
IN HIS  
STRATEGY...

...MOST  
LIKELY, THE  
REASON WHY  
HANNIBAL  
CHOSE THESE  
LANDS AS THE  
BATTLEFIELD,

IS NOT SIMPLY  
DUE TO THE  
SUPPLY DEPOT  
IN CANNÆ, BUT  
ALSO BECAUSE  
OF THE RIVER.





...  
**VARRO!**

INTERESTING,  
SO THAT'S  
WHAT HE'S  
AIMING FOR...



AND WHAT  
WOULD YOU  
KNOW, THAT  
IS EXACTLY  
WHAT YOU  
WERE DOING.

BUT OF  
COURSE, I  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE PUT IT  
PAST YOU LOT  
TO HAVE KEPT  
SOMETHING  
HIDDEN  
FROM ME



WERE YOU  
EAVES-  
DROPPING  
ON US!?



...WELL,  
WHATEVER.

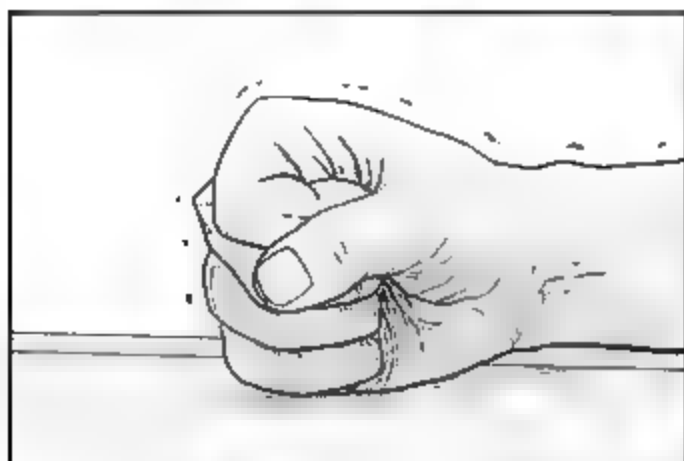
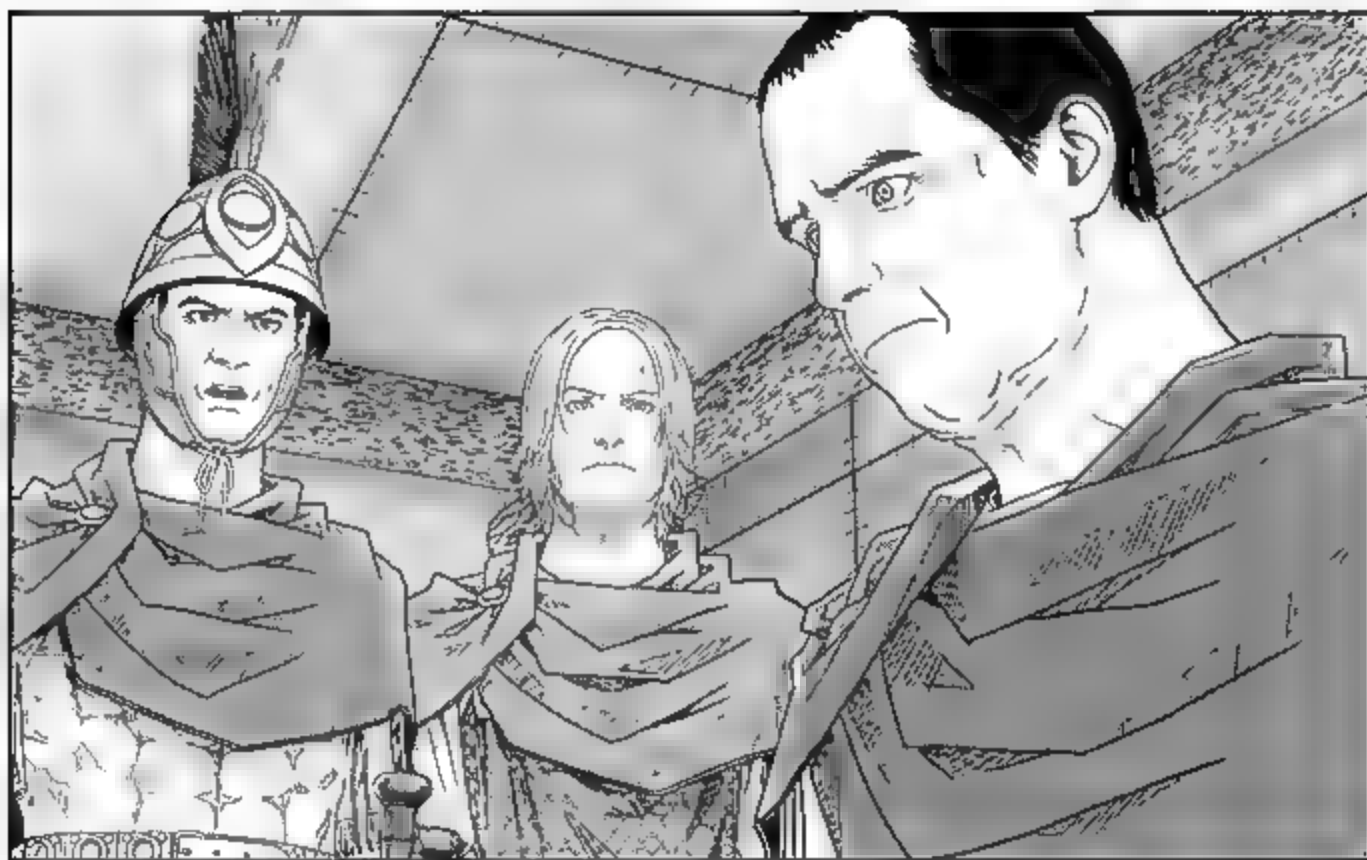


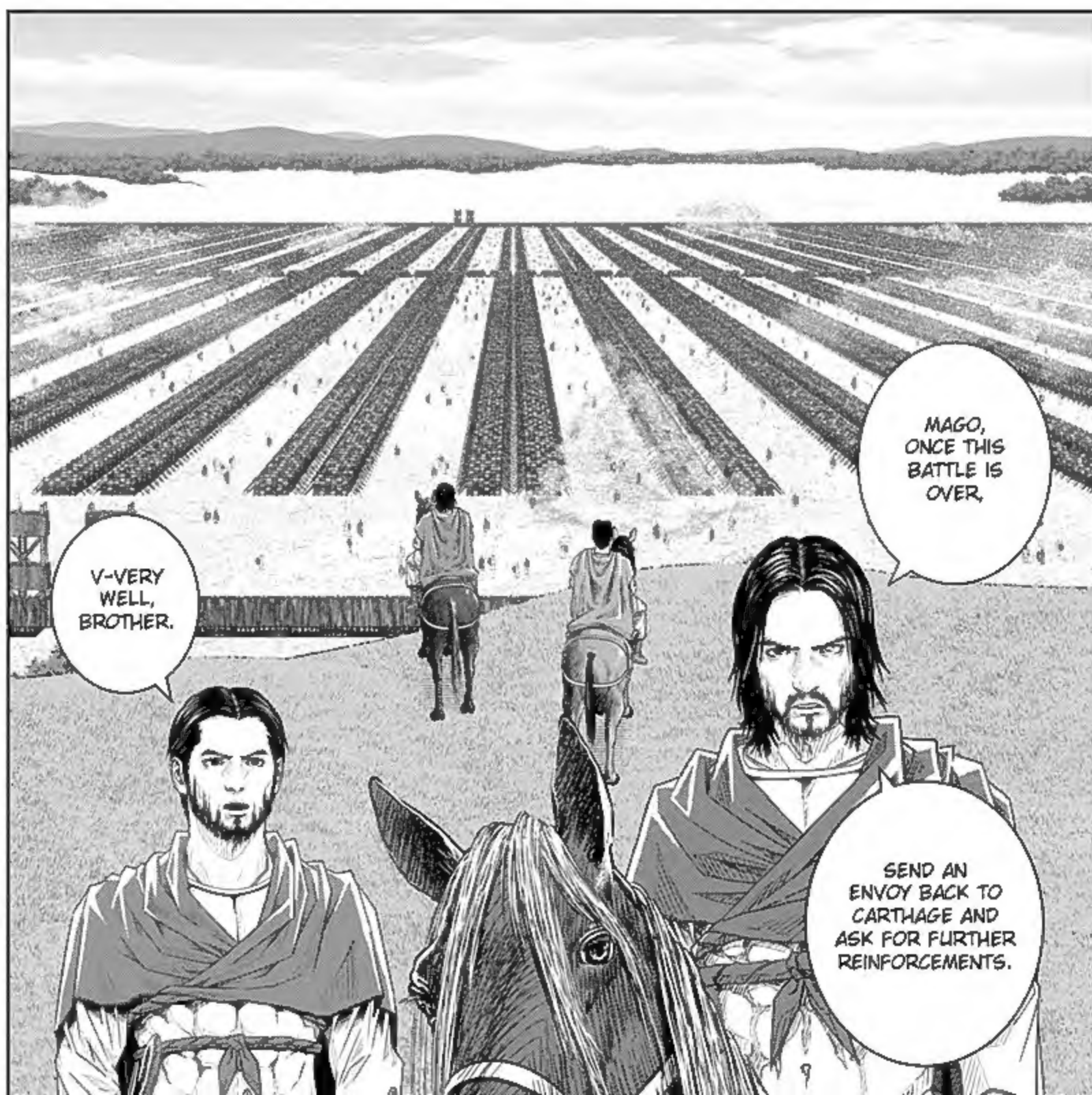
YOU DO  
REALISE THAT  
WHAT YOU  
HAVE DONE  
IS AKIN TO  
TREASON  
AGAINST ROME  
ITSELF?





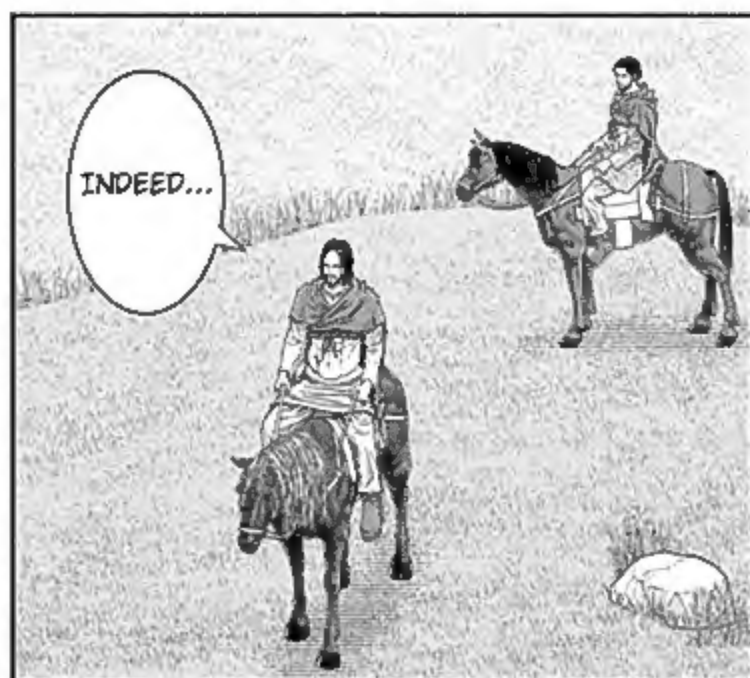














EVERYTHING  
UP UNTIL NOW  
HAS BEEN TO  
SET UP THIS  
SINGLE MOMENT.

SO THAT I  
MAY UNLEASH  
A TRUE  
ENVELOPMENT  
TACTIC.